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Daily Eastern News: February 07, 2019

Eastern Illinois University

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SHARING HER STORY

Former Eastern employee Loretta Prater discussed her book, which recounts the death of her unarmed son by police officers, on Wednesday afternoon.

PAGE 3

LOOKING LOCAL

Eastern head football coach Adam Cushing announced the signings of 26 players on Wednesday, including 18 from Illinois.

PAGE 8



THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Thursday, February 7, 2019

“TELL THE TRUTH AND DON’T BE AFRAID”

VOL. 103 | NO. 96

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF COVERAGE

EST. 1915

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Student Senate approves 7 RSOs

By Logan Raschke
News Editor | @LoganRaschke

Student Senate approved seven out of nine student organizations proposed at the hearing Wednesday night.

The Senate voted to table the remaining two student organizations until next week’s hearing.

Approved RSOs include Biology Ambassadors at Eastern, Percussion Club, E-Sports Club, Human Services and Community Leadership Ambassadors, Environmental Biology Club, German Club and Cloud Appreciation Club.

Senator Seth Yeakel said ambassador organizations such as the Biology Ambassadors and the Human Services and Community Leadership Ambassadors are some of his favorite student organizations because they help Eastern to further expand and improve.

“I believe that ambassador clubs ... are the next step in Eastern to grow and get more students to come,” he said.

Alicia Matusiak, vice president of Student Affairs, said out of all the student organizations that proposed at the hearing, she thought the Cloud Appreciation Club was the most interesting.

“I think the Cloud Appreciation Club stood out to me just because I’ve never heard of an organization that covered that, but there are so many needs of students on our campus, I’m happy that they’re taking advantage of becoming an organization of people who love clouds,” she said.

The student proposing its approval to the Senate described InterVarsity Club, one of two student organizations to get tabled, as a Christian Fellowship.

While the student organization’s representation said the club was welcoming to the entirety of the student body regardless of faith or denomination, its constitution exemplified that statement was “contradictory,” Matusiak said.

According to the club’s constitution, the organization is for Christians specifically to get together to understand the Bible instead of encompassing students of any religions or denominations.

STUDENT SENATE, page 5

Symphonious sweethearts



JORDAN BOYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Tower Duo performs during Music in Motion Wednesday night at the Doudna Fine Arts Center. The members of Tower Duo are a married couple and have been performing together since 2007.



JORDAN BOYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Erin Helgeson Torres plays the flute during Music in Motion Wednesday afternoon in the Doudna Fine Arts Center. One of their songs was accompanied with a video the artists shot while traveling in Ohio.



JORDAN BOYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Michael Rene Torres, saxophonist for Tower Duo, goes for a bow after performing one of their songs Wednesday night in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

HERC to host presentations on sleep, stress

By Brianna Lewis
Contributing Writer | @DEN_news

The Health Education Resource Center is providing a panther sleep open session for students on Thursday to learn whether or not they are getting enough sleep at night in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

This open session consists of two different presentations: “Stress and Sleep Management,” which is at 5 p.m. in the Martinsville Room, and “Sleep Like a Panther,” which is at 6 p.m. in the Effingham Room, immediately following the previous presentation.

Staff from HERC will educate attendees about good sleeping habits—what they are and how students can develop them—at this open session.

Gage Daily, health promotion coordinator and presenter at the session, will talk to stu-

dents about how sleep is a big part of students’ health and why they should care about healthy sleep habits.

Everyone knows people need eight hours of sleep every night, Daily said, but many of them do not realize if they do not get that necessary sleep, it can cause health issues, where they “don’t feel normal and (instead) feel drowsy.”

When people do not get the full eight hours of sleep they need, they are “under slept and sleep deprived and don’t realize it,” he said.

Daily said stress is another factor that can negatively affect healthy sleeping in college students.

Everyone should go to the open session, he said, because it gets students thinking about sleep—something vitally important for everyone—and the benefits healthy sleeping has to

offer college students.

These open sessions allow for students to engage with the presenters, and anyone interested in learning more about healthy sleeping habits can attend, he said.

Daily said he will be leading the “Sleep Like a Panther” open session at 6 p.m., and Kasey Brown, the mental health promotion coordinator, will be presenting the “Stress and Sleep Management” open session at 5 p.m.

According to HERC’s newsletter, the next “Sleep Like a Panther” open session after Thursday will be held March 29 at 6:30 in the Effingham Room, and the next “Stress and Sleep Management” open session will be March 26 at 1 p.m. in the Martinsville Room.

Brianna Lewis can be reached at 581-2812 or at bdlewis3@eiu.edu.

Save the Date

Who: Any interested students

What: Open sessions “Stress and Sleep Management” and “Sleep Like a Panther”


When: Thursday, 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Where: Martinsville Room, Martin Luther King Jr. University Union

Why: To educate students on healthy sleep habits and whether they are sleeping enough


Local weather

THURSDAY



Thunderstorms
High: 56°
Low: 11°

FRIDAY



Cloudy
High: 20°
Low: 9°

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“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

The Daily Eastern News
1802 Buzzard Hall
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL 61920
217-581-2812
217-581-2923 (fax)



News Staff

Editor-in-Chief
Analicia Haynes
DENeic@gmail.com

Managing Editor
Kristen Ed
DENmanaging@gmail.com

News Editor
Logan Raschke
dennewsdesk@gmail.com

Associate News Editor
Corryn Brock
dennewsdesk@gmail.com

Photo Editor
Jordan Boyer
DENphotodesk@gmail.com

Assistant Photo Editor
Thalia Rouley
DENphotodesk@gmail.com

Sports Editor
JJ Bullock

Assistant Sports Editor
Dillan Schorfeide

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Faculty Advisers
Editorial Adviser
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Brian Poulter
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The Daily Eastern News is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any factual error you find to Editor-in-Chief Analicia Haynes at 581-2812.

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If you would like to work for *The Daily Eastern News* as a reporter, photographer, columnist, cartoonist, copy editor, designer or videographer, please visit at the newsroom at 1802 Buzzard Hall.



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State and Nation

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Democrats push ahead to investigate Russian interference in 2016 election

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump warned Congress that investigations and legislation don’t mix. But Speaker Nancy Pelosi said such threats have no place in the House, as unbowed Democrats charged ahead Wednesday with plans to probe Trump’s tax returns, business and ties to Russia.

The chairman of the intelligence committee, Rep. Adam Schiff, announced a broad new investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election and Trump’s foreign financial interests. Other committees’ actions are

well underway.

The day after the president essentially laid out the ultimatum to Congress during his State of the Union address, Democrats appeared even more resolved to conduct oversight of his administration and legislate on their priorities.

"The president should not bring threats to the floor of the House," Pelosi told reporters, rebuking Trump for saying during his address that the "ridiculous partisan investigations" must end because they could harm the economy.

Pelosi said Congress has a respon-

sibility to provide oversight, under the Constitution’s system of checks and balances, and would be "delinquent" if it failed to do so.

Schiff indicated his committee’s investigation will be sweeping. It will include "the scope and scale" of Russian intervention in the 2016 presidential election, the "extent of any links and/or coordination" between Russians and Trump’s associates, whether foreign actors have sought to hold leverage over Trump or his family and associates, and whether anyone has sought to obstruct any of the relevant investigations.

Illinois Senate committee OKs \$15 min. wage

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — A Senate committee has OK’d increasing the minimum wage in Illinois to \$15 in six years.

Majority Leader Kimberly Lightford’s measure won approval 13-6 on a party-line vote Wednesday in the Executive Committee. The Maywood Democrat hedged on calling it for a floor vote immediately.

The plan would increase the minimum wage from \$8.25 an hour to \$9.25 on Jan. 1, 2020. After going to \$10 on July 1, 2020, it would increase \$1 each Jan. 1 until 2025.

New Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker campaigned on the plan and has asked Democrats who control the General Assembly to send him a bill to sign by the time he lays out his budget proposal in two weeks.

Republicans oppose the idea. They say it increases too quickly for businesses to absorb the cost. The Illinois Retail Merchants’ Association wants to see wages tiered to varying costs of living across the state. Lightford says she’s still open to the idea.

Illinois hospital treated 8 people who tried boiling water challenge during cold temps

MAYWOOD, Ill. (AP) — The extreme cold last week activated the science experiment gene in a number of people, resulting in injuries for those who tried the "boiling water challenge."

The challenge was to fling boiling water in the air and watch it turn into

frozen vapor.

The burn center at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood reports it treated eight people who attempted the exercise.

Hospital spokesman Jim Ritter says the patients treated range in age from three to 53 years.

Loyola burn surgeon Dr. Arthur Sanford warns people to not perform the challenge, noting "there is no safe way to do it."

Temperatures in Illinois plummeted to double-digit subzero readings last week. Wind chill readings fell to more than 55 below zero in some areas.

Trump speech viewed by 46.8 million viewers

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — President Donald Trump’s State of the Union address was seen by 46.8 million television viewers, an increase over his 2018 speech.

The Nielsen company said the speech, which was delayed by the government shutdown, topped last year’s audience of 45.6 million. His first such address before Congress in 2017 was seen by 47.7 million.

The Trump-friendly Fox News Channel dominated the coverage, with 11.1 million people watching the speech on that network. NBC was second with 7.1 million, CBS had 6.7 million, ABC had 5.9 million, MSNBC had 3.8 million and CNN had 3.4 million.

Nearly 4 million Fox viewers didn’t stick around for Stacey Abrams’ Democratic response, but the network’s audience was still larger than all others.

Woman details sex accusation against Fairfax

WASHINGTON (AP) — A California woman went public with her sexual assault accusation against Virginia Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax on Wednesday, saying in a statement that she suppressed the memory for years but came forward in part because of the possibility that the Democrat could succeed a scandal-mired governor.

Vanessa Tyson, a 42-year-old political science professor who studies the intersection of politics and the #MeToo movement, says Fairfax held her head down and forced her to perform oral sex on him in his hotel room at the Democratic National Convention in Boston in 2004.

"I cannot believe, given my obvious distress, that Mr. Fairfax thought this forced sexual act was consensual," Tyson said in a three-page statement issued by her attorney.

Gas explosion in San Francisco ignites buildings

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A gas explosion in a San Francisco neighborhood shot flames into the air Wednesday and was burning five buildings as utility crews scrambled to shut off the flow of gas more than two hours after the blaze began.

Private construction workers cut a natural gas line, San Francisco Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White said. Authorities initially said five of them were missing, but the entire construction crew was found safe, and no other injuries were reported.

Hayes-White said several buildings in the area were evacuated, including a medical clinic and several apartment buildings.

"It’s pretty dramatic, but we have pretty good handle on it," she said.

Firefighters worked to keep the fire from spreading while Pacific Gas & Electric crews tried to shut off the natural gas line.

Ex-legislator pleads not guilty in nude photo case

WAUKEGAN, Ill. (AP) — A Republican former Illinois state legislator has pleaded not guilty to charges accusing him of posting nude photos of women online without their consent.

The (Arlington Heights) Daily Herald reports that Nick Sauer of Lake Barrington showed no reaction as a Lake County judge read the dozen counts during his arraignment Wednesday. The 36-year-old faces felony charges of disseminating private sexual images.

Sauer announced his resignation last year after a former girlfriend made the allegations against him. Prosecutors say the charges stem from an investigation that revealed two victims.

Sauer’s trial is scheduled for Aug. 19.

TODAY ON CAMPUS

Student Rec Center | Open 5:30 AM - 11:00 PM

Booth Library | Open 8:00 AM - 1:00 AM

MLK Jr. Student Union | Open 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM

Resume Review Blitz | 1:00 - 4:00 PM | Career Services

Bring in your resume for a quick 15 minute critique. No advance appointments required.

Power Hour | 6:00 - 7:00 PM | Synergy Studio, Student Rec Center

Author talks fighting against police brutality

By Bailey Chandler
Contributing Writer | @DEN_news

After the death of her unarmed son, Loretta Prater is determined to fight for justice for those who are also victims to brutal attacks of police force.

Buzzard Hall auditorium filled with people ready to hear a presentation given by Prater, a former Eastern employee and author of the book “Excessive Use of Force: One Mother’s Struggle Against Police Brutality and Misconduct,” on Wednesday afternoon.

Prater said in January of 2004, her son, Leslie Prater, was brutally murdered by four police officers while being unarmed in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

She said justice was never fully reached since the Chattanooga Police Department determined that her son’s death was not the responsibility of the officers involved. Eventually, the Prater family took a settlement to end their fight against the Chattanooga Police Department.

She said this did not end their fight against the wrongful doing and brutal attacks of unarmed men by police force, so she took her educational background and used it as a platform to help serve others who have been involved in similar situations.

Linda Simpson, one of Prater’s colleagues and friends, said she read the book shortly after it was published.

“It was disturbing for me to read the pain she went through,” Simpson said.

In her presentation, Prater discussed that her goal is to help as many people as she can because sometimes justice does not get served.

She said she is also currently traveling and giving presentations like this one over her book.

Within Prater’s book is information about her own story and other similar stories of men who have lost their lives.

Stephanie Blessmen, a graduate student in attendance, said one thing that stood out in Prater’s presentation was that certain chapters of her book had to be taken out because the book would not have sold as well.

“That can relate to life, too,” Blessmen said. “You can try to forget about things, but they’ll never fully be gone.”

Prater discussed possibly writing another book involving some of the chapters that were not in her current book.

Graduate student Josey Fiorett said she thought a lot of people could relate to Prater’s presentation.

“Dr. Prater really knows how to put her feelings into words,” Fiorett said. “She expressed what so many people have felt or gone through.”

Bailey Chandler can be reached at 581-2812 or bochandler@eiu.edu.



RAINE ZHU | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Former Eastern employee Loretta Prater gives a presentation about what inspired her book, "Excessive Use of Force: One Mother's Struggle against Police Brutality and Misconduct," at the Buzzard Auditorium on Wednesday.



RAINE ZHU | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Video and radio equipment is set up in Buzzard Hall Auditorium for recording Loretta Prater’s presentation on Wednesday evening.

Study Tip

TEST YOURSELF!

Struggling to remember all the dates, formulas, names, key facts, and equations you learned throughout the semester? Testing yourself with regular quizzes is a great way to mentally prepare for these facts. Practice makes perfect!



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Hello, goodbye



RAINE ZHU | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Students greet Eastern President David Glassman through the window while they run past Old Main on Wednesday afternoon.

» STUDENT SENATE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Matusiak said she recommended the senate table the student organization until more information was available.

Thus, the senate voted to table the club, reserving it for next week's hearing.

The other student organization that senators voted to table was the Japanese Club.

Executive Vice President Zachary Cohen informed senators that because the Japanese Club's proposal had no student representative at the meeting, the option to table it was valid; thus, the senate voted to reserve approval or denial of the registered student organization until the next hearing.

Student Senate speaker Tarve'a

Durant said senators will also host a tabling at the University Food Court at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Feb. 12 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

At the tabling, Durant said interested students not affiliated with student government can fill out comment cards detailing what specific events and activities they would like to see on campus.

One of the main goals of Durant and the rest of Student Senate is to get more students interested in attending the meetings every Wednesday at 7 p.m. and getting involved in student government, which is what the tabling is geared to help make happen, he said.

An important issue Durant

brought up at the hearing was the importance of student senators attending the events for African-American Heritage Month, he said.

"Not really a lot of senators were (at the African-American Heritage Month events). I just feel like it's important (for student senators to attend) because we, as student representatives, make important decisions on things like the Black Lives Matter Flag; we make important decisions on things like that, so it's important to show up," Durant said.

Logan Raschke can be reached at 581-2812 or at lrraschke@eiu.edu.



JORDAN BOYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
New members of Student Senate are sworn in Wednesday night at the meeting in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

CAA to vote on bylaw revisions

Staff Report | @DEN_news

The Council on Academic Affairs will vote on one, possibly seven, action items during their meeting Tuesday.

The only item to be acted on is revisions to the CAA bylaws.

The Chair will entertain a motion to add items 19-008 through 19-013, 19-008 to the agenda to be acted on during the meeting. These items include a Request for Reasonable and Moderate Extension bachelor's degree in Fashion Merchandising and Design, MIS/CIT 4760: Systems Analysis, Design and Development (new course), MIS/CIT 4770: Database and Data Management (new

course), engineering technology minor (revised minor), management information systems minor (revised minor) and management information systems major (revised major).

Items to be added to the budget for next week include revisions to the bachelor's degree in the General Studies program and a new course, SPE 4980: Non-Licensure Programming and Services for Individuals with Disabilities.

Fourteen executive actions will be voted on, and three reports are listed to be heard by the council.

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finaid@eiu.edu

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday - Friday	9:00 AM – 4:30 PM
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TODAY'S HELPFUL HINT

ITCLab 2019 Hours

Monday - Thursday 8 AM - 9 PM
Friday 8 AM - 4 PM

1430/1440 Buzzard Hall

Throwin' it back to February 7, 1989!

The Daily

Eastern News

Tuesday, February 7, 1989

Eastern Illinois University
Chadeston, Ill. 61920
Vol. 74, No. 97
12 Pages

Here's what was happening on campus 30 years ago!

Eastern's computers infected with virus

By RUSSELL STARE
Senior reporter

Eastern microcomputers have caught a cold that could still prove dangerous.

On Friday, computer labs on campus were shut down to have diskettes pulled from the microcomputers to be checked for two forms of virus in the system.

"We're trying to clear the labs of the infected diskettes," said David Henard, director of computer and telecommunications services. "We detected it in our lab (student services building) on Friday," he added.

At Computer Services, Henard said he is responsible for academic and administrative computing and the maintenance and purchasing of computers on campus.

Henard said evidence shows a possibility of the viruses being present in the system since before Christmas break, but Computer Services detected no problems in the system until last week. He said he cannot pinpoint exactly where the problem developed, although it is possible Blair Hall first experienced the effects.

One strain is what Henard calls an old strain, being detected by the University of Illinois last fall.

Workers in computer services are currently working with the U. of I. to detect the second strain, Henard said. "We don't have the new strain figured out yet," he added.

"For us, it's just a precautionary measure at Carman (Hall)," said Reid Mlsna, director of the Carman Hall computer center.

Presently "We have no sure-fire way of getting rid of it (the virus)," Mlsna added. "We're not sure precisely what it does." He said the computer labs have begun checks with a computer program "Check-disc" designed to find discrepancies in the system.

Henard said all labs will have workers posted to check discs brought in by students to the labs. He said hopefully by checking the discs, any infection carried in can be detected before it is allowed to further endanger the system.

Students are not under suspicion of planting viruses, but there is the chance discs may accidentally be infected, he added.

Henard could not say if the current strains were intentionally placed in the system. "There will be no way to find out." Any new viruses that crop up, though, will be able to be detected.

Technicians from Eastern's Computer Services department will be traveling to U. of I. Tuesday to work with other technicians on identifying the new virus.

Henard said the strains in the system affect microcomputers, which are used in four campus residence hall labs.

Carman Hall uses eight Zeniths for its students. Taylor Hall has 30 personal computers, the majority of which are IBM compatible terminals. Stevenson Hall has 24 Zeniths and two IBMs and East Hall employs one Zenith for residents and office use.

"It hasn't affected any of the main frame computer system," he added.

Mlsna said he attended a seminar on Saturday at Computer Services showing lab workers how to detect viruses on discs. Literature has been distributed to campus computer labs as well on detecting viruses.

"People are going to be more aware in the future" of computer problems, Henard said. Instead of just thinking a disc is wearing out, he said students should begin reporting problems with the personal computers to lab directors to avoid disasters.

Overcast

Tuesday will be cloudy, high in the lower 20s.

The Vehicle publication seeks entries

By KRISTA A. TAYLOR
Staff writer

Eastern's literary magazine, The Vehicle, is looking for submissions for the spring edition. Submissions must be received by Feb. 17. The Vehicle is published bi-annually by the English Honorary, Sigma Tau Delta, but any student



KEN TREVARTHAN/Staff photographer
A Physical Plant worker clears away the snow from the ground between Blair Hall and the Coal Conversion plant Monday afternoon.

EIU hoping to renovate library

Accounting majors answer students' tax questions

Pre-med student organizes Eastern blood drive

Cold weather hampers campus construction

DESIGN BY KRISTEN ED

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0103

- ACROSS**
- 1 Got the attention of

8 Followers of the Baal Shem Tov

15 Author known for the intelligence of his writing?

16 Outer layer of a membrane

17 Crystallizing substance in Kurt Vonnegut's "Cat's Cradle"

18 Conglomeration

19 & 20 Pattern in back of a window

21 Cut down, possibly

22 Cold-weather product prefix

23 Reading ability?

26 Can't stomach

30 "De profundis," e.g.

32 Best-selling erotic novelist ____ Leigh

33 Germ-free state

35 & 37 Hit Leonardo DiCaprio film, with "The"

38 Narrow tube in chemistry

39 Get better

40 App customers

41 Cinches

45 Boardom?

46 Playing card marking

49 Word with full or file

50 & 52 Commander at the First Battle of Bull Run

55 Kobe or Shaq, notably

57 Recruits

58 Steam locomotive workers

59 Black Panther's co-creator

60 Reduction of tension

61 Choir composition
- DOWN**
- 1 Chasséd, say

2 Withdraw

3 Gets a 5 on an A.P. exam, say

4 One who may help you keep your balance?

5 Lancastrian or Liverpoolian

6 ____ Laszlo (cosmetics brand)

7 Not easily understood

8 Stacks

9 Lumberjack

10 Daytime TV fare

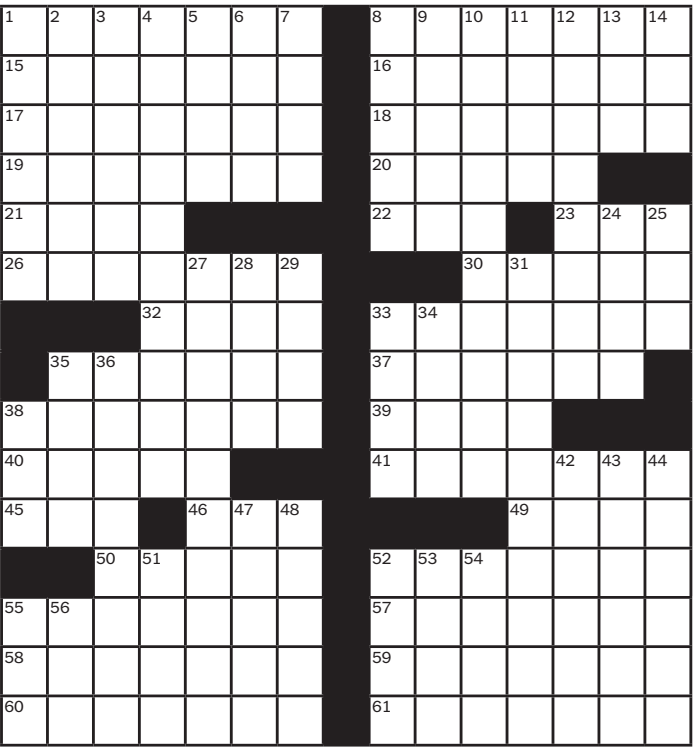
11 Pass the time

12 Prepare, as hides for tanning

13 Org. that supported the Good Friday Agreement

14 "Scrumptious!"

24 Razor cut



PUZZLE BY TIMOTHY POLIN

- 25 May and others, for short

27 Hard to hear, perhaps

28 Quick pace

29 A good one is hard to crack

31 Underground activity

33 1970 Australian Open winner

34 W.W. II weapon

35 Full of sass

36 Gap in a schedule

38 Lightweight boxer?

42 Brawl in the backwoods

43 Possible candidate for a Razzie Award

44 Has a funny feeling

47 Like atoms with complete valence shells

48 Inherently

51 Stomach

52 The new girl on Fox's "New Girl"

53 Disfavoring

54 Group with a tartan

55 Subject of many '60s hits?

56 Had something

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

P	A	L	L		M	U	F	F			A	G	E		
I	D	E	A	S		E	S	A	I		B	R	A	G	
S	H	A	R	K		M	A	R	G	A	R	I	T	A	
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Eastern wanting win in pivotal OVC week

By JJ Bullock
Sports Editor | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern women's basketball team is 0-9 on the road this season.

Let that number sink in for a second before being told Eastern is 3-7 in conference play, in desperate need of wins to stay in the tournament picture and has two road games coming up this week.

Eastern travels to play Murray State (3-7) on Thursday and Austin Peay (5-5) on Saturday. Both games will have huge conference tournament implications for all three teams.

"I think it's huge (to get a win)," said Eastern head coach Matt Bollant. "Obviously the tiebreaker makes it big. Both of us (Murray State and Eastern) are at three wins, and it's going to take probably seven or eight to get in the conference tournament, so it's really a big deal for both teams."

It is looking more and more like a reality that Eastern will have to win at least one of these games to stay relevant in tournament discussions.

A win in both games would be ideal for the Panthers, who would have their record bumped to 5-7 and would likely put them back in the top eight in the conference.

A loss in both games and quite frankly Eastern's season would be rendered all but over. If Eastern were to fall to 3-9, with Belmont and Tennessee Tech remaining on its schedule, it would be hard pressed to even dream Eastern into the conference tournament at that point.

Bollant and his team recognize that not getting at least one win this week is likely a deal breaker.

"Obviously get (a win) or sweep at home," Bollant said. "At this point in the year every game is getting more important, and we have to find a way to get a road win on Thursday."

That makes Eastern's Thursday matchup with Murray State all the more pivotal.

There is not a more perfect time for Eastern to get its first road win than Thursday against another 3-7 conference team that the Panthers have beaten once already this season.

"Just playing how we're capable of

playing," Bollant said is what it will take to get a win on Thursday. "Playing good for four quarters, not having a one-quarter lapse and playing at a high level defensively and being able to execute at the offensive end as well."

Knowing that Eastern beat Murray State once already will give the team an added dose of confidence headed into Thursday Bollant said.

But the Panthers also know that Murray State will be playing with an "edge" and will be ready to go on its home court.

Bollant said the team had a good practice this week and that senior guard Grace Lennox is especially ready to get the team its first road win of the season.

Eastern and Murray State tip-off at 5 p.m. Thursday.

JJ Bullock can be reached at 581-2812 or jpbullock@eiu.edu.



ANALICIA HAYNES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern redshirt-senior Grace Lennox drives the lane in the Panthers' 75-67 win over Murray State on Jan. 17. The Panthers will meet Murray State on the road Thursday.

MEN'S BASKETBALL | NOTEBOOK

OVC race tightening up on men's side

By Oscar Rzodkiewicz
Men's Basketball Reporter | @ORzodkiewicz

The race for the OVC trophy got even closer last week as four teams share the number one spot while Eastern sits just behind the top of the pack.

The Panthers (13-10, 6-4 OVC) won a thriller in Lantz Arena last Thursday to Eastern Kentucky in a 67-66 finish to kick off the week.

Eastern held one of the conference's top scorers, Colonels senior Nick Mayo, to just 4-19 shooting on the night to secure the win, though Mayo still finished with a double-double of his own.

Eastern sophomore Mack Smith led the game with 17 points including four three-pointers, extending his streak

of three-pointers made in consecutive games to 39, the longest in the OVC.

The Panthers could not follow up the performance against Morehead State, however, as Eastern fell to the Eagles 84-78.

Eastern gets back on the horse this week with its second and final matchup of the year against Murray State on Thursday and a weekend slate with Austin Peay.

Meanwhile, Murray State sophomore Ja Morant continues making waves around the country, making the top-20 cut for the John Wooden Award, given at the end of the year to the nation's top college player.

On the floor, though, the Racers (17-4, 8-2 OVC) have fumbled in the stand-

ings after an 88-68 whopping done unto them by Jacksonville State.

Morant did his part, posting 21 points and 11 assists, but it was Gamecocks senior Jason Burnell that stole the spotlight and the win for Jacksonville State, pouring in 21 points of his own with 15 rebounds.

The win temporarily put Jacksonville State (16-7, 8-2 OVC) on top of the conference, but the Gamecocks were unable to stove off Austin Peay over the weekend to maintain the No. 1 ranking.

For Murray State, the weekend helped them secure a share of the top slot after a 67-63 win over Tennessee Tech to go along with the Jacksonville State loss.

Morant rose to the occasion with 28 points of his own.

Murray State takes on Eastern before hosting Southern Illinois Edwardsville, while Jacksonville State hits the road for matchups with Tennessee-Martin and Southeast Missouri.

The last of the four horsemen, Austin Peay (16-7, 8-2 OVC) and Belmont (17-4, 8-2 OVC) both used 2-0 weeks to boost their resumes.

Austin Peay's tight win over Jacksonville State was preceded by a 77-66 victory over Tennessee Tech on Thursday.

Austin Peay sophomore Terry Taylor was awarded the co-OVC Player of the Week award for his 56.3 percent shooting over the week, adding 27.0 points per game and 7.0 rebounds per game averages.

The Governors face Southern Illinois

Edwardsville Thursday before the weekend faceoff with Eastern.

For the preseason favorite Belmont, the theme of the week was blowouts, as the Bruins shellacked Southeast Missouri to the tune of 97-71 before downing Tennessee-Martin at home 82-67.

Belmont senior Dylan Windler shared the OVC Player of the Week honors after posting averages of 23.5 points and 14.5 rebounds per game, along with seven three-pointers in the two contests.

Belmont travels to hit the hardwood with Eastern Kentucky Thursday and then again on Saturday against Morehead State.

Oscar Rzodkiewicz can be reached at 581-2812 or orzodkiewicz@eiu.edu.

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Eastern signs 26, 18 from Illinois on signing day

By JJ Bullock
Sports Editor | @DEN_Sports

Eastern football's new head coach Adam Cushing made a lot of promises when he was announced in December. He promised the Panthers would win both a conference and national championship while he was coach and also that he would recruit heavier in the state of Illinois.

Wednesday on National Signing Day Cushing delivered the first of those promises when he announced the signings of 18 athletes from the state of Illinois out of a class that was 26 players deep.

Cushing said "yes" when asked if he feels he delivered on that promise today by signing 18 athletes from Illinois.

"That was plan and again, that's where I am from and that's where we are this is our home state," Cushing said. "We felt like we were going to go out and defend our home territory. We have five coaches assigned to the Chicagoland area and two coaches that have another portion of the state, so we're going to have coaches in our state all the time recruiting."

Defensive lineman Dominic Moore, a Chicago native, highlighted the class, the three-star recruit chose Eastern despite having offers from the University of Illinois and other FBS programs.

Moore was the 29th ranked player in the state of Illinois and at 6-foot-7 and 285 lbs is the largest player in Eastern's class. He had 14 tackles for loss in his senior season at Chicago Perspectives Charter High School.

Cushing described him as a dominating player on the football field.

"I think he has the potential to be that (at Eastern)," Cushing said. "That's what today is all about, is potential, right? So, I think that if he allows himself to be coached, I know that (defensive line) coach (Deonte) Gibson has been drooling since the NLI came in and the opportunity to work with him and help make him the best he can possibly be."

Cushing added about Moore; "he is a physical, dominating player that hopefully will do that at our level, but its potential right now, its potential until he shows up here."

There are seven offensive linemen in the class, the most of any position signed for Eastern. Eastern is losing Aaron Callaway, Josh Doyle, Grant Branch, Eliki Tanuvasa and Joharhi Branch from last season's line, but despite that, Cushing said adding depth at offensive line was one of his staffs first priorities.



DILLAN SCHORFHEIDE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern head football coach Adam Cushing discusses the recruits who signed to play football at Eastern Wednesday, National Signing Day, at O'Brien Field.

"I think the depth itself, you always have to have enough depth to compete at every position, and just looking at our roster when we walked in the door, it was a huge priority, and you see that with the seven young men that joined today, and we're ecstatic about those young men."

Cushing said all seven are physical players and that "some" of them may be ready to step in and help Eastern right away on the line.

"That's a position that is always a challenge to play young, but I think that we've got some really high strength numbers and some really mature young men that have an opportunity to come in and help us," Cushing said.

Full list of signees:

-Connor Aldrich, DB, Machesney Park, Illinois
-Ameer Aqel, LB, Tinley Park, Illinois
-Joel Barrows, LB, Chicago, Illinois
-Charlie Brooks, DL, Flossmoor, Illinois
-Dylan Czerlanis, OL, Antioch, Illinois
-Ivan Gleyzer, OL, Lincolnshire, Illinois
-Brandon Guido, DB, Aurora, Illinois
-David Hardwick, RB, Roselle, Illinois
-Jaelin Hayes-Benefield, RB, Pearland, Texas
-Dylan Hughes, DB, Milford, Ohio

-Anthony Imperio, OL, Auburn, Alabama
-Jason Johnson, LB, Matteson, Illinois
-Cameron Leach, DL, La Grange Park, Illinois
-Christiaan Mascucci, K/P, Wildwood, Missouri
-Dominic Moore, DL, Chicago, Illinois
-McKinley Neville, DL, Batavia, Illinois
-Kirk Pinkston Jr., WR, Indianapolis, Indiana
-Matt Ross, DB, Lombard, Illinois
-Dylan Scaggs, OL, West Plain, Missouri

-Anthony Sottosanto, OL, Frankfort, Illinois
-Chad Strickland, OL, Smiths, Alabama
-Elkhanan Tanelus, OL, Naples, Florida
-Jordan Williams, DB, Oswego, Illinois
-Grant Edwards, LB, Springfield, Illinois
-Anthony Shockey, LB, Lombard, Illinois

JJ Bullock can be reached at 581-2812 or jpbullock@eiu.edu.

Men's basketball to visit Murray State Thursday

By Dillan Schorfheide
Assistant Sports Editor | @Eiu_journalist

The last time the Eastern men's basketball team faced Murray State, it was on Eastern's home court.

Murray State star and top-five draft prospect Ja Morant had one vicious dunk and a reverse layup that seemed to hang in the air forever but fell straight through the net: swish.

The dunk made the No. 1 spot in ESPN's Sportcenter's top-10 plays Jan. 17, the same night of the game, and the layup was in the No. 5 spot.

Eastern lost the home game 83-61, on a night when Eastern head coach Jay Spoonhour said he thought his team played pretty well.

Morant went 11-16 shooting overall in the game, including shooting 80 percent (4-5) from three-point range.

Shaq Buchanan added 17 points of his own, and KJ Williams had 14 points and 16 rebounds.

Eastern had three double-dig-



ZACH BERGER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern freshman Cam Burrell shoots a jumper in the Panthers' 83-61 loss to Murray State Jan. 17 in Lantz Arena. Eastern travels to Murray State Thursday.

it scorers of its own: Mack Smith had 22 points, Shareef Smith had

13 points and Rade Kukobat had 12 points.

Since then, both teams have had similar records in their respective conference schedules.

Eastern has gone 3-2, and so has Murray State.

Both teams have also had bad losses in that stretch.

Murray State lost to Belmont at home by 13 and lost to Jacksonville State on the road by 20.

The Bruins and Gamecocks are both good teams, but Murray State was hyped up enough for everyone to believe it would win both games.

Eastern lost to Southeast Missouri by five points on the road after having early control and committing a late turnover that cost it any chances to come back at the end of regulation.

Then, against Morehead State Saturday, the same situation unfolded as Eastern lost 84-78.

Thursday's game between the two on Murray State's home court is a chance for both to get back on track and gain as much momentum

as possible for the final stretch before the conference tournament.

One aspect of Murray State's style that hurt Eastern was its ability to move the ball quickly on offense.

Eastern assistant coach Tone Boyle said defending a fast-paced offense like that is a focus and anticipation thing.

"You have to make your decisions quicker," he said. "You got to learn to anticipate stuff faster. Really, in basketball, it's a quarter-step or a half-step between a made three or a blocked three."

Since the Murray State game, Boyle said he thinks the team has done a good job and has not allowed another offensive game like that.

Other than that, Boyle said the team just needs to stick with what is has been doing so far.

Eastern tips off at Murray State at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Dillan Schorfheide can be reached at 581-2812 or dtschorfheide@eiu.edu.